

Serial Number: 09/740,103  
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Title: INTERCONNECT

canceled from the claims. Applicant traverses the objections to the drawings.

Claim 4 recites, "wherein the pad has at least at least five substantially straight edges." Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is shown in Figure 1A. The pad illustrated in Figure 1A includes six substantially straight edges, so the pad illustrated in Figure 1A also includes at least five substantially straight edges. Hence, the feature objected to is illustrated. Thus, there is no basis for the objection. Therefore, applicant requests withdrawal of the objection and reconsideration and allowance of claim 4.

Claim 26 (the office action objected the drawings not showing the hyperbolic taper of claim 25, applicant assumes the office action intended to refer to claim 26) recites, "wherein the tapered conductive segment comprises a hyperbolic taper." Applicant refers to 37 C.F.R. 1.83, which in pertinent part, states, "conventional features disclosed in the description and claims, where their detailed illustration is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention, should be illustrated in the drawing in the form of a graphical symbol." Applicant respectfully submits that a "taper" (which is a graphical symbol) is illustrated in Figure 1A for the conductive segment 110 described in the specification at page 4, lines 24-30, and page 5, lines 1-7. A hyperbolic taper, as described in the specification at page 5, line 5, is a feature for which detailed illustration is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention, so the graphical symbol constitutes an appropriate illustration. A hyperbolic taper is another taper function which is understood by understanding the illustrated linear taper function. Thus, there is no basis for the objection. Therefore, applicant requests withdrawal of the objection and reconsideration and allowance of claim 26.

Claim 28 recites, "wherein the at least two vias comprise triangular conductors." Again, as with the "hyperbolic taper" described above, the "three vias 104-106" are illustrated by the graphical symbols in Figure 1A and described on page 4, at line 9 of the specification. Each of the graphical symbols is suitable for representing a variety of exemplary shapes (square, octagonal, triangular, and hexagonal) for the vias described in the specification on page 4, at lines 13-15. Hence, the objected to feature is illustrated. Thus, there is no basis for the objection. Therefore, applicant requests withdrawal of the objection and reconsideration and allowance of claim 28.

Claim 32 recites "wherein the tapered conductive segment includes an exponential taper." For reasons, analogous to those provided above with respect to claim 26, applicant requests withdrawal of the objection and reconsideration and allowance of claim 32.

Claim 34 recites, "wherein each of the at least four vias comprise square conductors." For reasons, analogous to those provided above with respect to claim 28, applicant requests withdrawal of the objection and reconsideration and allowance of claim 34.

Claim 37 (the office action objected the drawings not showing the hexagonal vias of claim 36, applicant assumes the office action intended to refer to claim 37) recites, "wherein the at least two vias comprise hexagonal conductors." For reasons, analogous to those provided above with respect to claim 28, applicant requests withdrawal of the objection and reconsideration and allowance of claim 37.

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect amendment of previously pending claims 29 and 37. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

29. (Amended) An interconnect comprising:

a substrate;

a pad formed on the substrate; and

at least four vias coupled to the pad, wherein only one of the at least [two] four vias is formed substantially beneath the pad.

37. (Amended) The interconnect of claim 36, wherein the at least [two] five vias comprise hexagonal conductors.